

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01451 231432Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10

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FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7170

INFO USUN NEW YORK 286

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1451

E.O. 11652: N/ XGDS-2 IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMIN

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, BC, US, RH

SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS REGARDING U.S. MERCENARIES IN BOTSWANA

REF: A) STATE 251499; B) GABORONE 1290

1. IN VIEW OF U.S. LAWS REGARDING MERCENARY ACTIVITIES AND GOB ALLEGATIONS AMITS BELISARIO AND ACHESON, EMBOFF MET MORNING OCTOBER 23 WITH D.K. CULLINAN, HEAD OF BOTSWANA CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT FOR CLARIFICATION. CULLINAN, WHO HAS HANDLED CRIMINAL ASPECT OF CASE FROM BEGINNING, AFFIRMED THAT GOB HAS NO RPT NO EVIDENCE THAT THE TWO AMCITS ACTUALLY ENLISTED IN RHODESIAN ARMED FORCES.

2. HOWEVER, AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, BELISARIO HAS CONFESSED TO GOB THAT HE AND ACHESON WERE INDEED IN BOTSWANA ON MISSION FOR RHODESIAN SPECIAL BRANCH (REF B). LEGAL QUESTION REGARDING WHAT CONSTITUTES "MERCENARY" ACTIVITY IS IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF U.S. LAW, IT MAY WELL BE THAT DRAFTERS OF GOB PRESS RELEASE DID NOT MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

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Message Attributes

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